

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

DHA-02 /065 W

----- 106475

R 231515Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4810

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0892

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJ: MINISTER PROROGUES CRC AND REQUESTS ITS CHAIRMAN TO
CONSIDER BUDGET

REF: CAPE TOWN 0891

1. USING SPECIAL POWERS GIVEN HIM UNDER AMENDMENT TO COLOURED PERSONS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ENABLING LEGISLATION, MINISTER OF COLOURED RELATIONS HAS DESIGNATED CHAIRMAN OF THE CRC EXECUTIVE, LEON, TO APPROVE CRC BUDGET FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR. THESE WERE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION THAT CRC HAD FAILED TO PASS DURING ITS SESSION ADJOURNED ON SEPTEMBER 12 (CAPE TOWN 0828). BUDGET, WHICH AMOUNTS TO R158 MILLION MUST BE APPROVED (BY NOVEMBER 7 ACCORDING TO PRESS) IF EXPENDITURES UNDER CRC ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING SALARIES AND PENSIONS, ARE TO BE MET WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. IF LEON DECLINES TO APPROVE BUDGET AND PART APPROPRIATION, LEGISLATION GIVES MINISTER OPTION OF DOING SO.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS AND SOME POLITICAL OBSERVERS, IF LEON DECLINES THEREIS STRONG POSSIBILITY STATE PRESIDENT MAY DISMISS HIM AS CHAIRMAN OF CRC EXECUTIVE.

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EM LEON THUS HAS CHOICE OF EITHER APPROVING BUDGET HE HAS PUBLICLY CRITICIZED AS INADEQUATE FOR NEEDS OF COLORED COMMUNITY AND IDENTIFIED WITH OPPOSITION FEDERAL PARTY, OR RISKING LOSING HSI POSITION OF EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP.

4. GOVERNMENT GAZETTE OF OCTOBER 17 CARRIED NOTICE THAT MINISTER OF COLOURED RELATIONS ON OCTOBER 8 HAD PROROGUED CRC UNTIL A DATE TO BE DETERMINED LATER. LABOR PARTY WHIP, ACHMAT ADAMS, EXPLAINED TO ME THAT THIS WAS MINISTER'S MEANS OF PRE-EMPTION LEON FROM CALLING CRC BACK INTO SESSION AND ALLOWING IT TO REACH DECISION ON BUDGET AND PART APPROPRIATION. ADAMS POINTED OUT THAT BY PROROGUING CRC, AND THUS CONTROLLING DATE WHEN NEXT CRC SESSION IS CALLED, MINISTER AVOIDS POSSIBILITY OF HAVING CRC IN ACTION DURING NEXT PARLIAMENTARY SESSION. THIS, ADAMS SAID, COULD BE EMBARRASSING TO GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF "INSTANT PLAYBACK" THAT WOULD BE POSSIBLE BETWEEN THE TWO BODIES.
GAMON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 23 OCT 1975
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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06 JUL 2006

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